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metroVIEWS





Ross Sheppard students rehearse a play that challenges gender stereotypes.
KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

SAFE ON STAGE

School gives LGBTQ students a platform to express their stories

metroNEWS

Go where no one has pawn before

CITY PLANNING

Plan to keep shops from opening too close to each other

 **Jeremy Simes**
Metro | Edmonton

City planners' work on potentially limiting clusters of pawn shops concerns at least one executive in the business.

"We don't want to be stuck in industrial areas," said Diana Mochado, chief operating officer with Edmonton-based Cash Canada, during an urban planning committee meeting Wednesday. "We are trying to add value and get involved in the community."

Councillors tasked city planners Wednesday with developing draft bylaw changes that would regulate the number of pawn shops in a given neighbourhood, similar to how liquor stores and body-rub parlours are handled.

"We recognize there are impacts on the community," Coun. Scott McKeen

said Wednesday. "The community feels strongly that we should regulate this."

The push comes as residents continue to fight new pawn shops, arguing they increase crime. Cities such as Calgary and Saskatoon already have rules on density.

The motion, spearheaded by Coun. Mike Nickel, will require staff to report on how clustering affects neighbourhoods and the residents living in them. Planners will consult with End Poverty Edmonton as part of that report.

"We need to have some evidence, some numbers to hang our hat on," Nickel said.

But Mochado says the city will have a hard time proving anything.

"We are not a bad industry," she said. "You won't find that our stores do in fact increase crime."

Planners will also work on draft changes that govern how the storefronts look and ensure business associations are notified when a pawn shop plans to open up.

"We support those approaches," Mochado said. "We're trying to change those perceptions. Our stores are very family friendly."

The issue will return to committee in April 2018.

We are not a bad industry.
Diana Mochado



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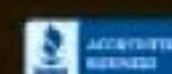
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Advisory board to study ways to boost ridership

TRANSIT

Many ways to improve the system, says Izak Roux



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton's citizen-led transit group is kick-starting numerous projects this May, in an effort to tell city councillors later this year what needs to be done to boost ridership.

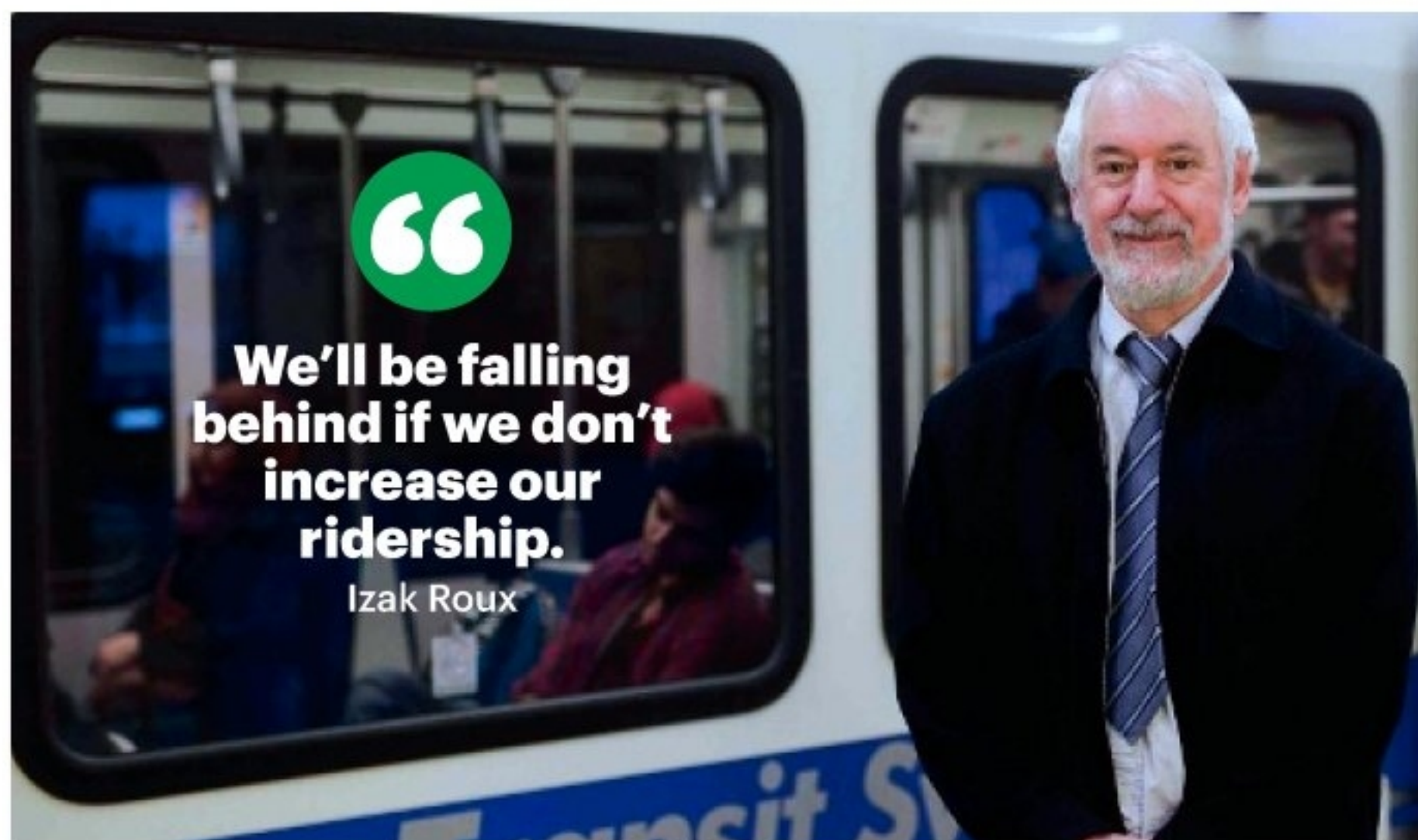
"We have to keep in mind the city has grown a lot in the last five years, but participation in transit hasn't grown at the same rate," said Izak Roux, chair of Edmonton Transit System Advisory Board, in an interview Wednesday.

"We'll be falling behind if we don't increase our ridership."

The group will research various ideas over the next few months.

They will present them to council by the end of this year or in early 2018, where councillors will decide to approve or reject the plans.

Metro chatted with Roux about the research projects, and what they could mean for current users and others thinking about taking transit in the future.



Izak Roux says his group is beginning many projects this May. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Gondolas or cable cars

This is one of those projects Roux calls "out-of-the-box thinking."

He said the group will see if Edmonton could link both the south and north side of the river by using a gondola or cable car.

"It's not an easy ride going from Rogers Place to Whyte

Ave — you have to make a lot of bus transfers," he said, noting it could also attract tourists. "There's good value from a transit point of view."

Partnering with taxis/rideshare companies

Roux said cities like Montreal partner with taxis so transit

users can get to a transportation hub.

He said the partnership might actually save the city some money.

Rebates for cabs or Uber drivers would cost less than funding large buses that only take a small number of passengers.

"It's not feasible to run big

buses where only two people ride them," he explained.

This way it will get more people on to the transit system because of the better service."

Providing more bike parking at stations would also help, Roux added, as it provides that incentive for users.

Autonomous vehicles

Roux said the group will look at how autonomous vehicles (or driverless cars) will affect Edmonton's transit system in the coming years.

"There might be a tipping point," he said.

"It might suddenly explode and, if the city is not ready for it, we will have to change a lot of things."

He explained there could be less vehicles on the road due to the driverless wave, meaning the city might have to ensure infrastructure spending on roads doesn't go overboard.

"You don't want get too far ahead then revert," he said. "We could get ahead on how autonomous vehicles will affect the system so we don't have to do that."

Heated bus shelters

Roux said the group is finalizing its recommendations of heating bus shelters in Edmonton later this year.

He said he would like the city conduct a pilot project on four or five shelters that would be heated.

"We have to see how well that works and possibly go city-wide," he said, noting Fort McMurray has heated shelters. "We have more than 2,000 shelters and none are heated."



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DedFest nearing demise

CULTURE

Film festival director takes issue with city funding model



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

After bringing flicks to the city's film scene for 10 years, Edmonton's DedFest may soon rest in peace.

"I'm out and I'm done trying," said DedFest director Derek Clayton, in an interview Wednesday.

Clayton said organizers behind DedFest — an independent film festival that has brought numerous genres to Metro Cinema — are pondering the event's demise after barely breaking even last year.

"We have an incredible board, and it will ultimately be up to them if we end it, but I'm done with city council," he said. "It's very frustrating."

Clayton's frustration stems from "stagnant" funding through



Derek Clayton says the organization might move elsewhere after barely breaking even last year.

KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

city arts grants, where the Edmonton Arts Council provides funding to groups looking for cash (DedFest received \$5,000 this year).

"It should be more fair," he said, alleging the funding model tends to favour larger events over smaller organizations.

"It should be more fair ... more egalitarian."
Derek Clayton

"It should be more egalitarian."

In response to potentially seeing DedFest fold, Edmonton Arts Council executive director Sanjay Shahani said the group won't be happy to see the group go.

"It would be a loss to Edmonton and I don't have any doubt

to that," he said.

According to a city mandate in 2008, festivals selected for city funding should be given cash that represents 12 per cent of their operating budgets.

But it's become more difficult to reach that target, Shahani said, noting the number of organizations applying for funding grows each year.

"We're trying our best to keep those targets," he said. "The potential for increases is limited because if there is growth in the festival pool and the money isn't growing, then we have to work with what we have."

Shahani said the arts council will soon embark on a new funding plan for festivals in 2019, when budget discussions begin at city council.

"It'll result in new recommendations, and usually, new recommendations call for increased investment," he said.

As for DedFest, Clayton said the festival might move elsewhere.

"If the board wants to investigate opportunities, then it could move," he said. "I don't want to leave the fans here, but it's a huge investment."

MUSIC

Sonic Boom bows out

DedFest's possible departure comes after the Sonic Boom festival announced in February it won't put on a show this summer.

The festival brought superstar acts like Jack White, Linkin Park, Blink 182, Arctic Monkeys and the Flaming Lips, as well as frequently returning Canadian performers like Mother Nature.

During the past several years, Mother Nature has plagued the festival with cold weather on Labour Day weekend.

Sonic Boom also tried to spruce things up by moving to a new location at Borden Park in 2015, offering green space to replace the former concrete surroundings of the Northlands grounds.

"Thanks for your support along the way," Sonic organizers wrote on their website in February. "Boom kept coming back because you kept coming back, blisters and all (remember the pavement at Northlands?). Anyway, thank you."

JEREMY SIMES/METRO

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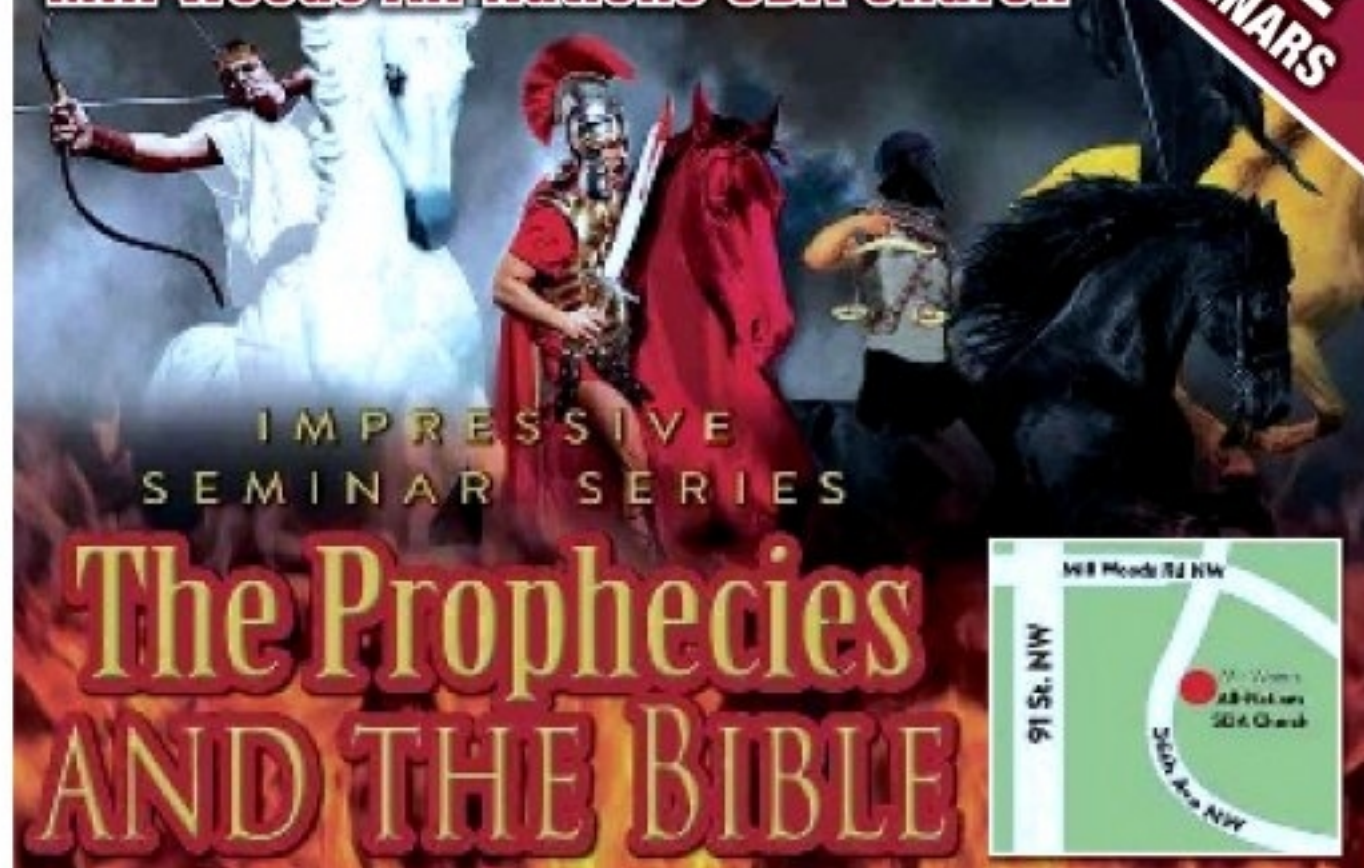


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Marijuana fans are gathering to celebrate 4-20 at the legislature again this year.

KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Playing the 4-20 waiting game

MARIJUANA

City officials, dispensaries want more info on legalization



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Call me maybe? While cannabis enthusiasts celebrate 4/20, city officials and pot sellers are eagerly awaiting information on how legalization will roll out in July 2018.

City officials reached out to the feds Wednesday so they can get working on regulations, with Edmonton Cannabis Coalition Chair Dave Loken saying Health Canada needs to “up their game.”

“We just want clarification on what kind of support we’re going to get,” said Loken, who is also a city councillor.

“We have invited Health Canada to our table a few times and got no response.”

The Edmonton Cannabis Coalition, which includes members of city council, Alberta Health Services, and Edmonton’s police and fire

services among others, is concerned by the timeline for legalization.

While city planners are already working on bylaws, Loken said the city needs more resources and information to clarify what its role is in the process.

Meanwhile, a Vancouver-based dispensary chain setting up shop in Edmonton said Wednesday they would love a call from the city.

“We’ve been in this industry for 15 years, so I hope that

they turn to us for at least some questions,” said Frederick Pels, President of the Green Room Society, a Vancouver-based dispensary.

Green Room has opened one location in Edmonton and is opening another next month. But until they get the green light to sell, both facilities are strictly open to provide information on cannabis.

“We’re waiting to see what the city asks of us to do. So far, they haven’t really been communicating what it is that

they see legalization looking like,” Pels said.

“Until we have the questions from them, we can’t really answer them with measures that we can take to be compliant.”

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley also said last week that the legalization timeline is going to be a challenge for the province.

Andrew MacKendrick, press secretary for Canada Health Minister Jane Philpott, said in an emailed statement that

the federal government will continue working with provinces, territories, municipalities and local communities, as well as Health Canada, on the legalization front.

“In the weeks and months ahead we will continue to work with all levels of government to ensure that the objectives of this legislation can be met — that is, to keep cannabis out of the hands of youth, and profits out of the hands of organized crime,” MacKendrick wrote.



We have invited Health Canada to our table a few times and got no response.

Edmonton Cannabis Coalition Chair Dave Loken



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CRIME

Witnesses to LRT stabbing sought

Edmonton police are asking anyone who may have witnessed the fatal stabbing of a 19-year-old man at a transit stop on April 11 to reach out.

They want anyone who may have witnessed the incident, which took place near the Coliseum LRT Station, to contact police.

"We're hopeful that some or all of these individuals will contact police immediately, as they could have information that will assist us in our investigation into this tragic loss of life," said Staff Sgt. Colin Derksen, EPS Homicide Section, in a release.

"This incident occurred during the afternoon rush hour with plenty of motorists driving past and students from nearby schools."

Police responded to a stabbing that sent a man to hospital with life-threatening injuries on April 11. He died later that day.

OMAR MOSLEH/METRO

INVESTIGATION

Police cleared in custody death



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton police have been cleared of "any wrongdoing" in the death of a 25-year-old man that occurred two years ago, after the Alberta Serious Response Teams (ASIRT) determined he died from "excited delirium" due to high volumes of meth in his system.

A baggie that screened positive for methamphetamine was recovered from the man's stomach, ASIRT said in a news release.

On April 29, 2015 at 9:18 p.m., security officers at the City Centre Mall arrested a man for trespassing in a stairwell, according to ASIRT. "The man appeared under the influence of alcohol or drugs, did not follow verbal direction, and resisted the attempts of mall security to take him into custody, including kicking at the security officers," ASIRT said.

"The man talked and yelled over the security officers as they attempted to explain the arrest and his rights and he exhibited bizarre behaviour. A request for

police assistance was made."

ASIRT said two police officers then arrived and took him into custody, where he continued to resist. Officers later called for help, where four officers "had to use physical force" to restrain the man with handcuffs and leg restraints. The man continued to resist, according to the agency, so police believed he was under the influence of some substance.

ASIRT said police then called EMS for help.

"Once in the detention area, the man was placed on the floor in a holding cell in the recovery position," ASIRT said. "It was at this point officers noted the man now appeared to be unconscious and in medical distress."

That's when police removed the restraints and performed CPR as EMS hadn't yet arrived.

"Unfortunately, his condition could not be stabilized and he was pronounced deceased," the release reads.

Following his death, toxicology results showed there was meth and "methamphetamine metabolites" in the man's blood. That's when the baggie of meth was also found.



Students from the Ross Sheppard's Musical Theatre class rehearse an upcoming LGBTQ play to help students feel accepted and comfortable. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Students explore identity in revue

LGBTQ ISSUES

Musical Identities takes place from May 3-6



Omar Mosleh
Metro | Edmonton

At Ross Sheppard High School, LGBTQ students have found their safe space on the stage.

The school's musical theatre class is currently working on 'Identities', a musical revue based on real life experiences which explores how young people identify themselves in today's world.

Drama teacher Kristen Forsyth said she wanted to put a different spin on songs from popular musicals such as Grease, Rent and Hairspray. The production challenges gender stereotypes — one musical number has students performing 'Summer Loving' from Grease, with the girls acting macho and the boys acting sensitive.

"This year it seems like I have a lot more students in my drama classes, not just musical theatre but my other drama classes, who are gender non-conforming or in the LGBTQ+ community," Forsyth said. "So I started looking at how I could give these kids a chance to express their stories."

The show is almost entirely developed by students. During the audition process, Forsyth asked students to share a life-changing experience that helped them understand



Identities is based on real life experiences. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

their identity. Those stories are what inspired the scenes in Identities.

"With the theme of identity, we're not only looking at gender non-conformity ... but how our stories reflect who we are," Forsyth said.

Coming to terms with one's identity is an experience Mordecai Lazzer can relate to. The 17-year-old Grade 12 student identifies as non-binary or androgynous. Lazzer said the drama program at Ross Sheppard has always been welcoming, but Identities takes that a step further by giving Lazzer a broader outlet for their voice.

"It's allowed me to express who I am ... It's really let me come out of my shell and be open more, not only with my drama friends but with people out in public in the world," Lazzer said.

Lazzer's experience of growing up with an older sister and mother who expected they be more feminine is one of the stories made into a scene.

"That's basically what my story is about — how I tried to go from one spectrum to the other until I found my place in the middle," Lazzer said. "I'm

not specifically feminine or masculine — I'm kind of just myself."

Tassondra McNeil, who identifies as female and straight, remembers when she acted in a play in Grade 10 called 'Bye bye birdie', which emphasized traditional gender roles as "macho" men.

"To come this far and kind of do something that's the complete opposite, which talks about being you — maybe you're a tomboy, maybe you don't identify with a particular gender at all — it's really nice to explore that especially because a lot of the world hasn't quite grasped that," she said.

Forsyth has been encouraged by how her entire class has embraced the production.

Lazzer hopes the production will encourage young people who are unsure about their identity to explore what makes them unique.

"I want people to educate themselves more and be comfortable with who they are."

The performance takes place on May 3 and 5 at 7 p.m., and again on May 6 at 1 p.m. at 7 p.m., at St. Jean Theatre at the University of Alberta.

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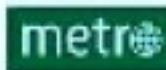
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Albertans are sharply divided in how they view Premier Rachel Notley, and are generally unfavourable towards Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Poll reveals trust issues

OPINION

Survey asked Canadians to rank leaders, institutions



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Albertans are the least likely to trust Justin Trudeau and most likely to trust energy and pipeline companies, according to a new survey.

The 2017 Environics Communications CanTrust Index, released Wednesday, asked Canadians to rank how much they trust various politicians, industries and institutions, and found Alberta out of step in several areas.

"There's a big difference there, and perhaps not surprising," Environics Senior Vice-President Josh Cobden said of Albertans' thoughts on the prime minister. "The Trudeau name, for many people in Alberta, will forever be connected to the National Energy Program of his father."

On a seven-point scale, less than 30 per cent of Edmontonians and Calgaryans said Trudeau is "very" or "somewhat" trustworthy to do what's right for Canadians.

The national average was

44 per cent.

When it comes to energy and pipeline companies, the roles reversed, with about 40 per cent of Albertans considering them trustworthy compared to a 26 per cent national average.

Big-city Albertans are sharply divided when it comes to Premier Rachel Notley.

In Edmonton, 35 per cent said they trust their premier, compared to 21 per cent of Calgaryans.

Across Canada, 30 per cent of Canadians said they trust their respective premier.

In the workplace, Calgaryans were the most likely in Canada to trust their CEO or most senior boss, at 62 per cent versus a national ranking of 51 per cent.

While Western Canada skews cynical, Cobden said the overall results show Canadians — particularly newcomers and women — buck global trends by being more optimistic, hopeful and trusting.

"It paints a uniquely Canadian picture, and that's one of trust and hope and optimism," he said.

Canadians put the most trust in hospitals, universities and colleges at over 60 per cent, and the least trust in U.S. President Donald Trump and marijuana producers, with both coming in at 13 per cent.

Environics conducted an online survey of 1,500 Canadians between January 16 and 26.

1,500

The number of Canadians surveyed online between January 16 and 26.

WORKFORCE

Employers encouraged to hire locally in professions hit hardest by economy

Alberta companies are being encouraged to hire locally for jobs in professions hit hard by the economic downturn.

Under the federal-provincial program companies cannot apply to hire temporary foreign workers for 29 occupations.

The list includes engineering managers, contractors, machinists, plumbers, carpenters and

oil and gas well drillers.

The governments say under the pilot project it will be easier for employers to recruit Alberta workers for jobs.

Alberta's seasonally adjusted



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Chris Ambrozic

unemployment rate was 8.4 per cent last month.

As of December the province had the third highest number of employment insurance recipients in Canada — up 55 per cent

from the same time in 2015.

The Alberta Construction Association praised the program.

"We believe in hiring Albertans first, Canadians next and foreign workers as a last resort," Chris Ambrozic, vice-president of the association said Wednesday in a release.

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Taking steps to handle lineups

SPORTS

Changes include queuing inside men's rooms



Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

Edmonton Oilers fans might have to scooch a little closer in the pee line at Rogers Place Thursday.

The Oilers Entertainment Group is taking steps to reduce washroom lines for Game 5 of the team's first-round series against the San Jose Sharks, after complaints about long waits to use the men's rooms.

Tim Shipton, the group's vice president of corporate communications and government relations, said the changes will include having guest service staff assist washroom queuing,

and possible markers on the floor to encourage lineups inside the washrooms instead of outside.

"We're finding that ... the line starts at the edge of the washroom entrance, rather than in the washroom itself and certainly rather than behind urinals," Shipton said. "And that was a change from the old facility, where you saw significant lineups in the washrooms."

Shipton said wait times have gone up to eight minutes during playoff games, compared to average 4-5 minute waits during the regular season.

That's partly because people are waiting right until the final

period buzzers to leave their seats, whereas regular season games see more of a steady flow to the loo.

At events like the recent John Mayer concert where crowds skew female, some of the male washrooms are flipped. But when it comes to hockey, it's the men who are left waiting.

"When you have the demographic skewed to a larger male crowd, that's where you focus some of your time and effort," Shipton said.

Shipton said the Oilers will review the building operations, including washroom service, once the season is over.

But he also noted that Rogers Place has more washrooms than other new National Hockey League buildings and way more than Alberta building codes require. The code required 114 female toilets, 20 male toilets and 38 urinals, he said. Rogers Place has more than twice that, with 227 female toilets, 75 male toilets and 183 urinals.



The line starts at the edge of the washroom entrance.

Tim Shipton



Rogers Place has more washrooms than other new National Hockey League buildings, says Tim Shipton with the Oilers Entertainment Group. METRO FILE



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Clean-tech industry growing sluggishly

ENVIRONMENT

Feds too slow on investment, report warns

Growth in Canada's clean tech industry has slowed to the point that the sector could miss out on billions in revenue and thousands of new jobs without urgent government action, according to a report published Thursday.

Celine Bak, president of Analytica Advisors, a firm in Ottawa that monitors the industry and published the report, said investments to boost clean tech in the 2017 budget aren't moving fast enough. Without quick access to capital, many of the biggest players in Canada's \$13-billion clean tech sector will fall behind global competitors, Bak said.

"There's an urgent need for the money you've proposed to be deployed," said Bak, referring to the Liberal government's 2017 budget pledge of \$1.8 billion over three years

for clean tech financing.

None of that money, however, is slated to roll out this year.

"It's back-end loaded and the need is really short term," Bak said. "That's not going to be sufficient, especially for the biggest firms that are in very competitive global markets, where we're talking about weeks — not months — as a timeline that needs to be executed upon."



There's an urgent need for the money you've proposed to be deployed.

Celine Bak

The industry includes more than 850 firms in Canada that employ 55,200 people, the report says. These companies range from those working on more efficient power grid technology and cleaner ways to dig for oil, to recycling, transpor-

tation and agriculture.

The 2017 Canadian Clean Technology Industry Report, released Thursday, paints a picture of an industry that is still growing, but at a slower rate than previous years. Revenues in the sector jumped 8 per cent from 2014 to 2015, while they grew at around 11 per cent per year from 2011 to 2013.

But profits retained by clean tech companies in Canada continue to drop, and the report says "the industry is awash in red ink and shareholder returns are negative." This includes companies working on low-carbon transportation, which have seen five straight years of negative returns in a developing sector that is vital in the push to meet Canada's global emissions targets for 2030, according to the report.

At the same time, the report says Canada's global market share in clean technology dropped 12 per cent from 2008 to 2015, when it stood at 1.4 per cent.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



NEWFOUNDLAND ONLOOKERS FLOCK TO FERRYLAND FOR GLIMPSE OF ICEBERG

A large iceberg is visible from the shore in Ferryland, an hour south of St. John's, N.L., on April 10. A towering iceberg stationed off Newfoundland's east coast is drawing dozens of people to the small shoreline community sitting in its shadow.

PAUL DALY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAIRY INDUSTRY

'Don't point the finger to Canada'



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
Metro | Winnipeg

After a pointed shout-out from President Trump Tuesday, Manitoba dairy farmers fired back, calling his comments about Canadian dairy farming "very unfair" in their own right.

At a speech in Wisconsin, Trump criticized the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and blamed Canada for "some very unfair things (that) have happened to our dairy

farmers."

David Wiens, a third-generation dairy farmer who lives and works near Grunthal, Man., said Trump's claims are "certainly not fact."

Wiens, also the chairperson of Dairy Farmers of Manitoba, said dairy imports from the U.S. into Canada have increased 17 per cent in the last year.

He emphasized Canada's domestic dairy policy doesn't affect international trade.

Lisa Dyck, a dairy farmer and ice cream producer with Cornell Creme near Anola, Man., said

she was confident the Canadian government would stick by its dairy producers. She said Trump's comments didn't concern her.

"I think he just says a lot of things without thinking of the consequences," Dyck said. "I think it's great that he's behind his farmers — he should be. But he needs to look at this as a whole."

"In the end, we're all farmers. We understand. We are sad that they don't have a place for their milk, but we didn't do this ... (so) don't point the finger to Canada," she said.

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Bill O'Reilly given the boot by Fox News

BROADCAST

Allegations of harassment and payouts brought to light

Bill O'Reilly has lost his job at Fox News Channel following reports that five women had been paid millions of dollars to keep quiet about harassment allegations.

21st Century Fox issued a statement Wednesday that "after a thorough and careful review of the allegations, the company and Bill O'Reilly have agreed that Bill O'Reilly will not be returning to the Fox News Channel."

He had been scheduled to return from a vacation next Monday. It marks a stunning end to a near-perfect marriage between a pugnacious personality and network. For two decades, O'Reilly has ruled the "no spin zone" with cable news' most popular show, and his ratings had never been higher.

In a memo to Fox staff on Wednesday, the Murdochs said the decision followed an extensive review done in collabora-



Bill O'Reilly THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tion with an outside counsel.

Fox said that Tucker Carlson's show would move to 8 p.m. to replace O'Reilly and that the panel talk show The Five would take Carlson's time slot at 9 p.m.

The fast-moving story took shape with an April 2 report in The New York Times that five women had been paid a total of \$13 million to keep quiet about unpleasant encounters

with O'Reilly, who has denied any wrongdoing. Dozens of his show's advertisers fled, even though O'Reilly's viewership increased. O'Reilly has denied wrongdoing.

Even though at least one of the harassment cases against O'Reilly dated back more than a decade and was widely reported then, the accumulation of cases outlined in the Times damaged him much more extensively. It wasn't clear when those stories would end, with a group of women demonstrating in front of Fox's headquarters Tuesday and another woman, a former clerical worker at Fox, calling a harassment hotline and accusing the host of boorish behaviour.

O'Reilly's fans aren't likely to be happy about him losing his job, particularly on a controversy set in motion by the Times. His show's viewership increased the week after the story appeared — O'Reilly didn't address it on the air — and has sunk since he left for vacation. Potential successors like Dana Perino, Eric Bolling and Greg Gutfeld have substituted for O'Reilly since he left for vacation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



VENEZUELA THE 'MOTHER OF ALL MARCHES' A demonstrator walks along a barricade set up during opposition protests in Caracas, Venezuela, on Wednesday. Opponents of President Nicolas Maduro called on Venezuelans to take to the streets on Wednesday for what they dubbed the "mother of all marches" against the embattled socialist leader. Government supporters are holding their own counter demonstration. FERNANDO LLANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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JUDGE, PHILIP ALLAN

August 15, 1963 - April 3, 2017

Son of the late Linda May Judge and Gerald Reginald Judge of Edmonton, Alberta. Survived by his partner of 37 years, James Cribbin, sister Wendy Kennan, brother Brian Judge, nephews David (Brandy) Keenan and Daryl (Catherine) Keenan, grandnieces Sylvie and Harley and by extended family in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia including Nancy and Bud Fisher and family, Linda Judge, RN and the late Bobby Judge and wife Lange, and his uncle Paul Judge of Edmonton, Alberta.



Philip was well known in the chefs trade in Sarnia, London, Toronto Ontario, Fort McMurray and Edmonton, Alberta and also worked in Local 488 Pipefitters Union as an Apprentice Steamfitter.

Phillip and Jim met in Sarnia at a house dinner and later came to live together. Phil loved to play pool and was a regular at the former Buddy's Nightclub in Edmonton. He loved to play euchre. Phil was an honest and dedicated partner, dedicated to his friend and to his partner Jim. He had a heart of gold, and never said a bad word about anyone. For the past six years, Philip Suffered greatly with Myotonic Dystrophy. Jim provided his care till his passing at home of cardiac arrest. Jim would like to thank everyone who was involved in Philip's care over the years, especially Dr. Steven Toal at the Allin Clinic.

Services will be held on his birthday August 15, 2017 at Lawrencetown Cemetery in Nova Scotia. Donations may be made in Philip's memory to the Edmonton Humane Society or to Muscular Dystrophy Canada to benefit Myotonic Dystrophy. Messages to James can be conveyed via Trinity Funeral Home info@trinityfh.com.

CLEVELAND

Trip through McDonald's drive-thru leads to the end of Facebook killer

Facebook slaying suspect Steve Stephens was undone by a 20-piece Chicken McNuggets and an order of fries.

The man who police say shot a Cleveland retiree at random and posted video of the killing on Facebook pulled up to the drive-thru window of a McDonald's restaurant outside Erie, Pennsylvania, and waited for his order.

It was late Tuesday morning, and authorities were in the third day of an intensive manhunt.

Now, more than 100 miles from the shooting, his time on the run was nearly up.

The attendant who took



Steve Stephens CONTRIBUTED

his money recognized the suspect and dialed 911. Stephens pulled up to the next window,

where restaurant owner Thomas DuCharme Jr. and a supervisor tried stalling him by telling him his fries were delayed.

Stephens didn't want to wait. He took his McNuggets and whipped out of the parking lot, nearly hitting Gail Wheeler, 54, a retail operations manager from Erie who was on her way home from the grocery store.

"Two seconds later, I hear these sirens, and they come whipping past me," she said.

Wheeler followed behind for a couple miles.

One of the pursuing troopers picked his spot — in front of an

abandoned school — and hit Stephens' bumper to get him to stop. The Ford Fusion did a half-turn and came to rest at the curb.

Police were starting to get out of their cruisers when "I heard a shot. It was loud and distinctive," Wheeler said.

"The next thing I know, they're approaching the car. The one officer just shook his head. He was closest to the car. ... They had their guns out but when he shook his head, they lowered their guns."

Stephens killed himself, authorities said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Big money indeed: \$107 million in donations

It was huge. Big money from billionaires, corporations and a roster of NFL owners poured into Donald Trump's inaugural committee in record-shattering amounts — to pull off an event that was lower-key than previous inaugural celebrations.

That leaves a bit of a mystery: What the \$107 million was spent for and how much was left over — the excess, if any,

to go to charity. It also raises a new round of questions about the influence of money in politics, this time for a president who promised to "drain the swamp" of Washington.

Contribution records from Trump's inaugural committee, released Wednesday by the Federal Election Commission, show the president who railed against the corrupting influence of big-

money donors was only too willing to accept top-dollar checks for his swearing-in festivities.

Trump's total take was about double the previous record set by Barack Obama, who collected \$53 million in contributions in 2009, and had money left over to spend on the annual Easter egg roll and other White House events. Trump's top inaugural donor was Las Vegas gambling

billionaire Sheldon Adelson, who gave \$5 million. He and his wife came away with prime seats for Trump's swearing-in ceremony on Jan. 20 and gained access to a private lunch with the new president and lawmakers. Phil Ruffin, another casino mogul and close friend of Trump, was among dozens of donors who gave \$1 million each. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Public dime could pay for U.S. projects

FUNDING

Bill would lift curbs on infrastructure bank proposal

A new federal agency designed to fuse public and private dollars to help build infrastructure in Canada could end up building new roads and bridges south of the border — so long as they connect to the Great White North.

The legislation for the Liberal government's proposed infrastructure bank would allow the

arm's-length organization to use public money to help bankroll or financially backstop projects that are "in Canada or partly in Canada," provided there's a financial benefit and a physical connection to the country.

The wording means Ottawa could choose to fund projects with the potential to generate revenue for private investors or the government itself — toll roads or bridges, for instance, such as the Gordie Howe span between Windsor and Detroit, which is being financed with both private and public money.

"If in fact a vehicle like the bank can enable projects like that to go ahead more readily,

then I think that's positive," said Mark Romoff, president and CEO of the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships.

Romoff said it could also help advance Canadian interests south of the border, particularly at a time when U.S. President Donald Trump wants to leverage private money to help pay for a promised \$1-trillion infrastructure program.

Late last year, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, then a member of Trump's transition team, talked about the possibility of an American infrastructure bank that would use financing tools to lure private

dollars for public assets like new transit and transportation networks.

Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi met high-level American officials on two separate visits to Washington, D.C., along with top officials at the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, all of them interested in how the Canadian bank will operate.

Interested, too, are observers and investors in Canada, many of whom still have questions about the bank's operations and whether the wording in the legislation could end up erecting roadblocks to its success.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The infrastructure bank could fund cross-border projects such as bridges between Windsor and Detroit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BROADCASTING

Fewer Canadians watching TV: Report

A new report says the number of Canadians cutting the cord on their TV services is expected to increase this year.

The Convergence Research Group estimates in a report released Wednesday that TV subscriptions in Canada will drop by 247,000 this year, up from

220,000 subscriber losses last year.

That would represent an annual drop of two per

cent, and the consulting firm says that decline is expected to grow by three per cent in 2019.

The report estimates 3.8 million households or 26 per cent did not have traditional TV services at home last year and projects that will rise to 4.18 million or 28.4 per cent this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

VIDEO GAMES

Mini Super Nintendo could be on the way



Andrew Fifield
Metro | Toronto

Just days after confirming the end of the obscenely popular NES Classic, Nintendo appears to be working on a Super Nintendo follow-up.

According to Eurogamer, "sources close to the company"

say the miniature replica will be ready to hit store shelves in time for the holiday season and that planned production of the device was a factor in the NES Classic's unceremonious exit.

Released late last year, the plug-and-play NES Classic came packed with 30 games and was immediately greeted by overwhelming demand. The rapturous reception surprised the

company — who reportedly considered it little more than a one-off novelty product — and the system was continually in extremely short supply, giving rise to a robust resale market.

Nintendo has not confirmed the report, so any details on games that would be included with the miniature SNES are strictly speculation.

However, some of the con-

sole's most successful and beloved games include the likes of Super Mario World, Donkey Kong Country, Chrono Trigger and The Legend of Zelda: A Link to the Past.

The company released its latest console, the Nintendo Switch, early last month.

Nintendo says they sold nearly one million of the portable/home console hybrids in March.

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Nintendo plans to follow up the massively successful NES Classic with a sequel based on the Super Nintendo. CONTRIBUTED

CHANTAL HÉBERT ON TRUMP TAKING ON CANADA



Somewhat predictably, no amount of prime ministerial appeasement is turning out to be enough to keep Canada on the good side of the Trump White House.

Ever since last fall's American presidential election campaign, Justin Trudeau has played nice with Donald Trump, routinely bending over backward to avoid taking the new administration head on.

Parsing the prime minister's comments on Trump's eventful first three months one would be hard-pressed to find anything but kind words about the new occupant of the White House.

When the president moved to suspend the American refugee program and to ban citizens from six Muslim majority countries from travelling to the U.S., Trudeau issued a tweet to restate Canada's pro-refugee policy but refrained from openly criticizing the U.S. move.

When Trump cut foreign aid funding for contraception and family planning programs, the Canadian government raised its own contribution but otherwise kept its peace.

Ditto as the American administration confirmed its determination to walk away from the Paris treaty on climate change.

Earlier this month, the prime minister offered Canada's full support for Trump's unilateral decision to launch airstrikes on a Syrian military facility in retaliation for the regime's chemical gas attack on civilians. In the process, Trudeau soft-pedalled his party's long-standing commitment to multilateral international action. A few days later, the

prime minister called for the removal of the Bashar Assad regime.

Somewhat predictably, no amount of prime ministerial appeasement is turning out to be enough to keep Canada on the good side of the Trump White House and off the president's ever-changing hit list.

On Tuesday, he lashed out at NAFTA in general and Canadian dairy policy in particu-

lar. "In Canada, some very unfair things have happened to our dairy farmers, and others, and we're going to start working on that," Trump told a Wisconsin audience. "NAFTA has been very, very bad. We're going to make some very big changes or we're going to get rid of NAFTA once and for all," he added.



FRENEMIES Justin Trudeau has been playing nice with Donald Trump since he took office, but there is no shelter from the president's volatility, writes Chantal Hébert. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Contrast that with what the president had to say on the heels of his first face-to-face meeting with Trudeau less than two months ago and consider that there were no major public disagreements between the two governments over the interval.

"We have a very outstand-

ing trade relationship with Canada. We'll be tweaking it," Trump opined in mid-February. "We'll be doing certain things that are going to benefit both of our countries."

At the time, that statement was greeted with jubilant relief in some Canadian quarters. That jubilation was somewhat premature.

Anyone professing surprise at the sight of the U.S. president blowing hot and

cold on the same issue over a matter of weeks has not been keeping track of Trump's first three months in the White House.

There is plenty of evidence that he is, to put it politely, a chameleon-type of politician. Trump tends to blend his rhetoric to his environment, as often as not to the detriment of consistency.

But if anyone still harboured the delusion that a nascent bond between Trudeau and Trump would shelter Canada from this president's volatile approach to policy-making, this week's developments should have settled the issue.

Crafting alliances on Capitol Hill and in the states' legislatures — as Canada has been attempting to do as part of an all-hands-on deck political lobbying operation — may not be as glamorous as spending a night at the theatre with Ivanka Trump but it may yield more reliable results.

So far, Trudeau's velvet glove approach to the Trump administration enjoys widespread support in this country. But that comes with the underlying assumption that the glove is not an empty one and that an iron hand will manifest itself in defence of Canada's interests.

That did happen on Tuesday. In a strongly worded letter, Trudeau's envoy to Washington, David MacNaughton, refuted Trump's contention that Canada's dairy policy was wreaking havoc on American dairy farmers.

Still, up to now Canada's efforts on the U.S. front have unfolded on a rare bipartisan basis. Former prime minister Brian Mulroney has been providing Trudeau with insider advice on American trade dynamics. Conservative interim leader Rona Ambrose has struck a supportive role in her own visits to the U.S., as has Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, a premier otherwise known as the prime minister's chief provincial critic.

But there are trade issues on which it will be difficult to continue to present a united front as the war of words turns into a full-fledged negotiation. Canada's dairy and poultry supply management system is not far from the top of the divisive list.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

New pot laws must include a pardon for old convictions



Vicky Mochama
Metro

We cannot have a future pot policy that doesn't deal with criminalized pasts.

Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale has said that the new pot legislation will not include any special amnesty for past convictions.

This is a mistake.

The government's proposed legislation follows a public health approach of reducing harm and preventing problematic drug use. But the legislation, which is slated to come into effect by July 1, 2018, cannot just serve future drug users — and businesses, for that matter. It should also serve the health and wellbeing of the young, racialized men and women who are currently in court and in prison on drug charges.

According to the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, nearly 60,000 Canadians are arrested for possessing 30 g or less of cannabis every year — that's nearly three per cent of all arrests. And at least half a million Canadians have a criminal record for possessing that much pot.

In 2013, nearly half of all drug-related court cases involved cannabis, and young people between 12 and 24 were more likely to be arrested for pot than for any other drug.

The Justice Department either doesn't publish or does not track drug-offences by the race and ethnicity of the offender. Anecdotal, however, it's clear that the imagined drug offender is a racialized

person.

One only has to hear it from Bill Blair, the Liberal government's point man on the pot file. In his telling, when youth buy marijuana, they get it from "a gangster behind some apartment building" or "a criminal in a stairwell," he told the Toronto Star on separate occasions.

In case the dog-whistle isn't loud enough, Toronto's former top cop is selling the government's pot plan with a racially-charged message.

There is ample data to show that black and white people, on a percentage basis, use marijuana at nearly the same rates. Yet black users are arrested at a vastly higher rate. (Much of this data is American. Yet again we find that data on race is patchy at best in Canada.)

Evidence of this racial arrest gap can be found in our prison populations. From 2005 to 2015, the black inmate population grew by 69 per cent. This increase dovetails with the previous Conservative administration's tough-on-crime legislation that also led to an increase in the imprisonment of women and Indigenous people.

But if compassionate pardons are not part of the new legislation, thousands of Canadians — especially young racialized men and women — already languishing in the criminal justice system will be left behind. A majority of male prisoners struggle with addiction and substance abuse issues.

For the government, a clean slate starts next Canada Day. Many Canadians need that clean slate now.

There is plenty of evidence that Trump is, to put it politely, a chameleon-type of politician.

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We don't *really* know our rivers

EARTH DAY

Water demand and pollution are growing threats: Author

Canada has an incredible wealth of fresh water, much of it in rivers — from rushing giants like the Niagara and Yukon River to the swimming hole in your neighbourhood.

After 10 years studying rivers, Sean Fleming, hydrologist, data scientist and adjunct professor at UBC's department of earth, ocean and atmospheric sciences, has come to a conclusion: we don't know enough about rivers. And if we aren't informed, we can't protect them. Fleming's new book, *Where the River Runs: Scientific Reflections on Earth's Waterways*, aims to fix that. We asked him what we can do to help rivers run better.

Is there anything in your research that would surprise people who don't know much about rivers?

The example folks in Canada may not be aware of is the Colorado River. The Colorado River Compact was put together in the early 1900s to divide the waters of the Colorado River between different states and Mexico. It was derived on the basis of the data available at that point. As a matter of sheer bad luck, that period of time happened to be one of the wettest periods in several hundred years. That wasn't

discovered until the 1970s. Because of that, the Colorado River no longer flows to its mouth. Knowing more about the science of rivers has real, serious implications.

What needs to be done to protect rivers?

One: We need to understand how rivers work. We need better models for simulating what they'll look like in the future, and how climate changes will affect them. That provides the information we need to make decisions. Secondly, reducing needs. Global water demand is expected to increase by 55 per cent by 2050. That's a huge prob-

lem, given that a billion people already do not have access to adequate clean water. But there's a silver lining. For example, in the U.S. water demand has stabilized at 1970s levels.

Is it the same story in Canada?

Canada's track record with water management is not the best compared to other western countries. And that's simply because we're really lucky — we've got a lot of empty space and a lot of water.

Vancouver for instance, is a very wet part of the world. It wouldn't seem like you'd ever run into water supply issues, but it's happening, because you've got such a tremendous congregation of people in such a small area, and the water is seasonal. That's going to be a huge challenge.

What can individual people do for rivers?

There's a tremendous amount you can do. There are watershed clean-up days. You can get involved with riparian planting (restoring trees and vegetation around rivers). In terms of your personal choices, watch what you flush down the drain and how you dispose of things like paint. It can help a great deal at the local level.

Do you have a favourite river?

Oh my goodness. Maybe the Cowichan in British Columbia or the Rio Grande in the U.S. southwest. I love the landscapes around both of them. They both present a lot of opportunities and challenges.

SALMON RUN

You have a chapter about how clouds talk to fish. What?

Weather literally transmits data to fish species (living in rivers). When it rains, river levels go up. That affects ecological systems. One example is salmon runs on the west coast. If the fall rains come too late or they're too weak, the river levels will not rise enough for salmon to make a successful spawning run. Conversely, if it's too stormy in the winter, it can excavate the fish eggs out of the creek bed.



Canada has a wealth of rivers, B.C.'s magnificent Fraser River being one of them, but Sean Fleming argues Canadians don't know enough about this type of body of water. ISTOCK

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Gossip RAIDS, AWARDS AND BEAUTY

CRIME

Authorities say an intruder was arrested at Drake's Southern California house, but the woman apparently did nothing but drink the rapper's water and soda pop. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department says deputies from its Malibu/Lost Hills Station arrested 24-year-old Mesha Collins Monday inside the home of the Toronto-raised rapper. Deputies called to the house found Collins inside a locked room surrounded by opened water and soda bottles from the house. There was no evidence she took anything else or did any damage. She was arrested for entering a residence with intent to steal the victim's property. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AWARDS
Shad is a Peabody Award winner

Rapper Shad's docu-series examining the history of

hip hop music has been honoured with a Peabody Award. In the four-part series *Hip-Hop Evolution*, the former host of CBC's *Q* walks viewers through decades of memories integral to popular music history. Shad revisits the streets of Bronx and Harlem alongside seminal figures like Afrika Bambaataa, Kurtis Blow and Chuck D. *Hip-Hop Evolution* was among 12 documentaries selected as distinguished productions by the Peabody jury, which is made up of media industry professionals, media scholars, critics and journalists. They said its music doc winners represented "histories of music integral to American culture." *Hip-Hop Evolution* debuted last year on HBO Canada and on Netflix outside of the country. Other Peabody

documentary winners included Ava DuVernay's 13th, which was produced by Winnipeg-born Howard Barish, and Oscar winner O.J.: Made in America.



THE CANADIAN PRESS

HONOURS

People magazine has named Julia Roberts the "World's Most Beautiful Woman" for a record fifth time. The magazine announced Roberts' selection on Wednesday. The 49-year-old actress has previously claimed the cover spot in 2010, 2005, 2000 and 1991. Roberts, who won an Academy Award for Erin Brockovich, says she is "very flattered" by the experience. People's 28th annual "World's Most Beautiful" double-issue will be on newsstands Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**JOHANNA SCHNELLER** **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

25 years later, only the riot gear has changed

THE SHOW: *L.A. Burning* (A&E)
THE MOMENT: The riot begins



Executive producer of L.A. Burning John Singleton. CONTRIBUTED

April 29, 1992. Four Los Angeles police officers are acquitted of any criminal charges in the beating of Rodney King, even though a videotape was viewed by the world. Disbelieving, enraged protestors flood the intersection of Florence and Normandie streets. Police try to quell the crowd. Two protestors are arrested. Furious onlookers begin smashing car windows and looting the corner liquor store. Lieutenant Michael Moulin orders his cops to pull out.

Photographer Bart Bartholomew, who is white, takes pictures of the cruisers pulling away. But in a cold second, the crowd turns on him. Someone smashes a two-by-four into his face, breaking his jaw. Neighbourhood resident Tim Goldman escorts Bartholomew to his car and waves away the protesters who jump on its hood. Bartholomew pulls away. But the riot continues for two days.

I lived in L.A. then, and it doesn't feel like 25 years ago:

it feels like yesterday. But five separate docs have been made to mark the anniversary. This one, executive-produced by the director John Singleton, interviews participants about then and now.

What's chillingly obvious is that the racial profiling that set the protest aflame hasn't changed – witness the ongoing murders of black men by police.

What's changed is the riot gear. Notorious L.A. police chief Daryl Gates grievously underestimated public anger in '92, and sent his cops in unprotected. That's the only mistake that police all over the U.S. have corrected.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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'What would it be like to be you?'

PERSPECTIVE

Little Sister transports a woman into another body

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



Last fall, after Barbara Gowdy discovered a lump in her breast, her younger sister Mary offered to drive her to Toronto's Prince Margaret Hospital for a series of tests. As Gowdy was filling out forms, Mary suddenly fell to the floor in a seizure, caused by a massive brain haemorrhage. If Mary hadn't been in that hospital room at that exact moment, feet away from an oxygen tank and doctors to rush her into surgery, she would not have survived. Gowdy — now in remission after radiation and a lumpectomy — says it was her cancer that saved her sister's life.

Later that fateful day, after undergoing a core biopsy and being reassured that her sister was doing well in another hospital, an exhausted Gowdy came



Little Sister is author Barbara Gowdy's first novel in a decade. She wrote it while suffering from debilitating back pain, lying down in bed using a reclining chair for her laptop. CONTRIBUTED

home to a box sitting on her Cabbagetown front porch. The box was labelled "Little Sister," and for a shocking moment the author forgot that was the title of her much-anticipated new novel, her first publication in a decade.

It would be understandable if Gowdy wrote about the cruel limitations of the human body. On top of the breast cancer, she has suffered 14 years from a mysteri-

ously debilitating chronic back pain that limits her mobility. Most of *Little Sister* was written lying down in bed using a reclining tray for her laptop, while undergoing a litany of unsuccessful drug therapies that did little more than make her foggy and depressed. But Gowdy's curiosity about our inner lives runs deeper than skin and bones. Since she can remember, she has asked the

fundamental question: "What would it be like to be you?"

Little Sister follows Rose, a 30-something woman who lives a mundane existence running a repertory theatre with her mother, who suffers from progressive dementia. When a series of freak lightning storms hit the city, Rose's migraine-like symptoms inexplicably transport her inside the body of a stranger named

Harriet, who is having an affair with a married co-worker. This erotic experience is a far cry from the dullness of Rose's own relationship with Victor, an older, serious-minded meteorologist. No wonder Rose becomes almost physically obsessed to re-enter Harriet, who may also have an otherworldly connection to her deceased younger sister.

Gowdy suggests that her ongoing existential preoccupation with how others see the world may be connected with some discomfort she has with her own self. "I'm always curious about how people cope. It seems very touching to me," she says. "There's that saying, 'Walk a mile in my shoes,' but I was thinking, 'Walk a mile in my body, spend

an hour in my mind.'"

In writing Harriet, who is described as "kinetic" and the opposite of staid Rose, Gowdy purposely held back on exposing the character's thoughts. She wanted the book's strange occurrences to remain as much a mystery to readers as they are to Rose, and to avoid a re-tread of the 1999 Spike Jonze movie *Being John Malkovich*. "I wanted her to inhabit the body more. It wasn't just 'what it would be like being you,' and ending there, it's 'what is it like to be you and then come back to me,'" she says.

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.

PARENTING

Netherlands' pursuit for happiness

What if the key to raising contented kids lies not in priming our children for success, but rather in encouraging their happiness so they can find their own version of achievement?

That's the approach embraced by parents in the Netherlands, which is, according to a 2013 UNICEF report, home to the happiest children from among the 26 richest nations in the world.

A new book called *The Happiest Kids in the World: How Dutch Parents Help Their Kids (and Themselves) by Doing Less* explores what makes the Dutch approach to parenting different. The co-authors, American Rina Mae Acosta and Brit Michele Hutchison, both married Dutch men and are raising their kids in the Netherlands.

I spoke to Acosta recently about what defines the Dutch style of parenting.

You write that Dutch parents have a healthy attitude toward their kids, that achievement doesn't necessarily lead to happiness, but that happiness can cultivate achievement. Why is that such an important distinction?

Us modern parents all throughout the world, espe-

cially in America, we believe that in order to be happy in life, you have to be successful. But the Dutch have realized that happiness comes first before anything else. And when I'm talking about happiness I'm not talking about children being spoiled and entitled. I'm talking about children who are self-aware, who are able to be independent and who learn to make their own decisions. And children who are allowed to be children and to figure out their own passions in life early on and allowed to be who they are.

Apparently Dutch babies get more sleep. What is the deal there? How do they do it?

What most parents can actually do is simply have what the Dutch call the two "Rs" — rest and regularity. The basic idea is — especially for newborns, babies and toddlers — to create a calm, predictable environment with a certain set schedule of sleep, play and eat. And once you have those established, you can help regulate their sleep.

Dutch children are apparently among the least to feel pressured at school. Why is that?

It's just a whole different perspective on what a child is, I believe. While we obviously have to educate children, in the Netherlands they realize that what's most important in preschool is to teach children how to play. That includes focusing on their social and emotional development. That's a critical foundation to build. Then you can start teaching them academically at six, seven, eight. Versus in America: I'm afraid that we've forgotten the importance of play. Rather than focusing on that, there's a lot more focus on academics. But a lot of education researchers agree that an immature brain is not ready yet to take it all in. Interesting the children who are allowed to develop at their own pace are the ones who are allowed to have that intrinsic motivation to succeed.

It's interesting that while the Netherlands offers several types of high school, there doesn't seem to be much

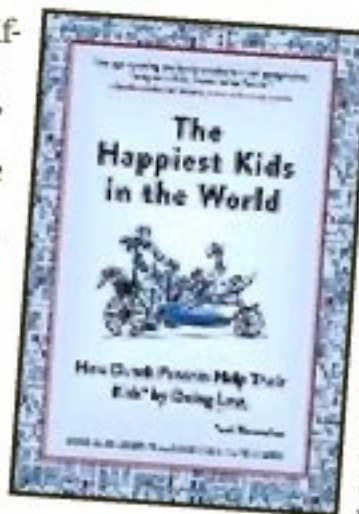
gnashing of teeth over which one a child goes to.

No, the Dutch realize that not every single person is meant to go to university. Not everyone is meant to be a doctor, a lawyer or a high-level professional. Some are actually meant to become nurses or teachers or chefs. And they realize that every child has their own special talent or special interest, so why is there a need to make every child conform to the status quo?

What do you most wish that parents living in Canada, or other parts of the world with similarly intense approaches to raising kids, will take away from this book?

Please be kind to yourself as a parent. Know that you doing your best is good enough. If you're more forgiving of yourself and accepting of all your mistakes, and also congratulate yourself for the things you are doing really well, the children will see that.

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Project overview

Jasper House Condominiums on the Park have a downtown location and access to all that modern urban living offers — city views, walkability, close-at-hand amenities and downtown work, dining, entertainment or services. This modern condo complex can still offer a cozy home, with loft-style exposed concrete features, tall ceilings and spectacular architecture.

Housing amenities

Jasper House condos have all the modern touches the urbanite wants: European-styled modern kitchen cabinets, double-thick stone kitchen and vanity counters, pre-finished hardwood floors and loft-style exposed concrete features. A minimum 6-foot deep balcony allows for plenty of outdoor entertainment, while spa quality bathroom finishes provide a tranquil home when called for.

Location and transit

A downtown Edmonton location is ideal for the condo dweller, with ETS and LRT mere steps away along bustling Jasper Avenue or 109 Street. Pedestrians can walk to work sites in the core, or bus/LRT to MacEwan University and the U of A. For drivers, Jasper Avenue leads to points in all directions, making an easy drive for entertainment, work, dining or services.

In the neighbourhood

The new Rogers Place arena is just a few blocks away, as is Ice District entertainment area's restaurants, cafés and shops. Live concerts and theatre are nearby at the Winspear or Citadel Theatre, and Sir Winston Churchill Square is likewise handy for any downtown gathering. Don't forget the greenery of the River Valley, close at hand with walk and cycle paths for all. LUCY HAINES/FOR METRO

+ NEED TO KNOW

What: Jasper House Condominiums on the Park
Builder/Developer: Lamb Developments
Location: Downtown Edmonton
Building: Soaring 32-storey condo tower with apartment-style units and large balconies
Models: One, two and three bedroom units of varying floor plans

Sizes: Starting from 520 square feet (plus 100 sq. ft. balcony)
Pricing: Starting from \$271,605
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Website: jasperhouse-condos.com

GARDENS

Virtual tech helps you mock up your plot before digging in

Just as virtual technology has become a common tool for anyone planning to repaint or redecorate a home, a growing array of apps can make landscaping easier too.

"We've seen an increase in virtual interior design services within the last two years, so it's only natural that this functionality would make its way to the exterior of the home as well," said Stephanie Sisco, Real Simple magazine's home editor.

A few of the more popular DIY gardening apps include Garden Designer, Design your New Sur-

roundings, Garden Plan Pro and Perennial Match.

"We have seen several hundred thousand downloads," says Patrick Pozzuto, founder of the iScape app, aimed at both professional and home landscapers. "Arranging plants using a touch screen is way easier than using your lower back to do it," he says.

"But while the pros have been using apps for a long time now, home gardeners do encounter some hiccups sometimes," he admits.



A design made in iScape.

CONTRIBUTED

"They don't necessarily know what plant goes with what, and what areas it'll grow in."

Dave Whiting, executive director of the National Gardening Association, says that while some tech-savvy gardeners quickly get the hang of landscaping apps, the learning curve is steep and they may be impractical for most home gardeners.

The association, founded in 1971 and based in Jacksonville, Texas, helps put out the Gardening for Dummies book series and hosts the website garden.org.

"The reality is that while the virtual tools are great for a min-

ority of gardeners, many more people find them far too confusing," he says. Many home gardeners, he says, would be better off using a pencil and graph paper, with each square representing 6 inches, or whatever scale is appropriate for the garden.

Yet even for amateurs, he notes, plant knowledge can mean the difference between failure and success with gardening and landscaping projects. Garden.org features a database, searchable by city, that gives the frost dates for an area and

vegetable planting strategies and schedules for the spring and fall seasons.

"Knowledge like that is crucial to whether a person's gardening project succeeds," he says. "Just because you see the plants for sale in the nursery doesn't mean it's the right time to plant."

And even if you haven't figured out all the features of the gardening apps, they can be a good way to show professional landscapers what you have in mind, Pozzuto says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOPEWELL HOSTS MONTH OF SHOW HOME EVENTS

Spring into huge savings on homes with stylish, affordable builder

Hopewell Residential is Edmonton's stylish, affordable builder — and over the next month, they're offering brand new promotions, savings and events. With three upcoming Hopewell house parties, plus huge savings on homes, Hopewell is making it easier than ever to buy a brand new Hopewell home.

"It's three big weekends of awesome events and amazing savings," says marketing manager Nicole McLaws. "Over the next three weekends, we're inviting Edmonton home buyers out to family fun events with food trucks, children's entertainers, prizes, giveaways, and the chance to save thousands on the most stylish, affordable and well-planned homes in Edmonton. In fact, we're matching

other builders' promotions and offers, or we'll give you a promo that fits your needs."

Hopewell starts the fun this Saturday, April 22, in the north Edmonton communities of McConachie and Vita in Crystallina Nera. "We're opening the doors to our laned and front-attached garage show home, plus we'll match other builders' offers — or, you can choose from a free garage for laned homes, or \$20,000 towards upgrades for a front-attached garage home," McLaws says.

On April 29, Hopewell will host an event in stunning Hawks Ridge, with a laned and front-attached garage house party at its four laned and front-attached garage show homes. "We'll be offering food truck snacks, giveaways and prizes at this house party too — along with our amazing new promo," McLaws says.

On May 6, Hopewell will host a house party at its Cavanagh laned and duplex show homes, which will also include promotions and discounts, plus snacks, entertainment, giveaways and show home tours.



CONTRIBUTED

"This is going to be a month of family fun and amazing savings," McLaws says. "But it's important to hurry in, because this is a limited time offer."

Visit hopewellresidential.com for event details, promo information, show home hours and maps.

IT'S THREE BIG WEEKENDS OF AWESOME EVENTS AND AMAZING SAVINGS.

— Nicole McLaws

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Back in safe waters

2017 **NHL PLAYOFFS**
SERIES TIED 2-2

Oilers return home trying to patch wounds

There's a hockey adage that to win the Stanley Cup, an NHL team's best players have to be just that. Unexpected heroes will emerge along the way, but a team's stars must shine the brightest.

With the sting of a 7-0 loss the previous night still fresh, the Edmonton Oilers headed home Wednesday for Thursday night's Game 5 in a deadlocked series, needing to figure out a way to cool suddenly hot San Jose stars Joe Pavelski, Brent Burns and Logan Couture while getting more production from their own high-end talent.

"We have to find the net," Oilers forward Jordan Eberle said at the team hotel just before heading to the airport. "I expect for us to get going, for sure. We've had the chances, two-on-ones, things like that."

Eberle finished the regular season with 51 points, but has only one assist in the four games played against San Jose. More dramatically, teammate Connor McDavid — the NHL's leading scorer with 100 points in the regular season — has one short-handed goal, one power-play assist and no points at even strength.

"We're learning as we go along. Our top scorers haven't



Sharks right-winger Marcus Sorensen, left, celebrates his second-period goal on Oilers goalie Cam Talbot on Tuesday night in San Jose.

MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/GETTY IMAGES

experienced this level of play before," Edmonton coach Todd McLellan said less than an hour after the Game 4 loss.

Referring specifically to McDavid, he added: "He has to experience his way out of it. His teammates and coaching staff have to help him."

It's not as if the Oilers top scorers don't realize they need

to contribute more, especially after seeing Pavelski get two goals and an assist, Burns get three assists and Couture notch two goals in that 7-0 stomping.

"We talked about their big boys stepping up and having a game like they did tonight," Milan Lucic, who has a goal

and an assist in the playoffs after a 50-point regular season, said late Tuesday night.

"So it's up to us, especially our key guys, to step up and have a

+ GAME BY GAME



- Game 1 in Edmonton
Sharks 3, Oilers 2 (OT)
- Game 2 in Edmonton
Oilers 2, Sharks 0
- Game 3 in San Jose
Oilers 1, Sharks 0
- Game 4 in San Jose
Sharks 7, Oilers 0
- Game 5 in Edmonton
Thursday, 8:30 p.m.
- Game 6 in San Jose
Saturday, TBD
- Game 7 in Edmonton*
Monday, TBD

*IF NECESSARY

game for our hockey club."

The Sharks could say the same about their top players prior to Game 4. Burns, the NHL's top scoring defenceman with 76 points in the regular season, had no goals or assists. Pavelski, who finished the regular season with 68 points, had one assist.

All of that changed when San Jose's power play, which had been 1-for-14 over the first three games, finally took advantage of Edmonton's constant parade to the penalty box. The power play was 4-for-8 in Game 4.

The Oilers said they recognize the need to make fewer trips to the penalty box if they want to slow down the top Sharks. "There was obvious desperation in their game, and then we put them on the power play way too often," Oiler forward Mark Letestu said Wednesday. "They've been to the Stanley Cup final. Their belief system is pretty strong. You put their big boys on the power play enough and they're going to find a way."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Capitals centre Nicklas Backstrom and Leafs goalie Frederik Andersen watch T.J. Oshie's game-opening goal hit the back of the net Wednesday.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN TORONTO

Desperate Capitals claw even with Leafs

The Toronto Maple Leafs got their toughest test yet from the best team in hockey.

Tom Wilson and T.J. Oshie both scored twice and Alex Ovechkin notched his third goal of the playoffs as the Washington Capitals evened the best-of-seven first round series at two games apiece, dropping the Leafs 5-4 in Game 4 on Wednesday night.

Zach Hyman, James van Riemsdyk, Auston Matthews and Tyler Bozak all scored in defeat for Toronto, which made a late charge, while Frederik Ander-

sen surrendered five goals on 27 shots.



THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Juventus advances past Barça in Champions League

Juventus made sure there were no more miracles at Camp Nou on Wednesday, as the Italian visitors held Barcelona to a 0-0 draw and advanced to the Champions League semifinals.

The second-leg stalemate sealed a 3-0 win on aggregate and came after Barça's historic 6-1 thrashing of Paris Saint-Germain, when the home side became the first team to ever overturn a 4-0 loss in the competition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cubs walk off Brew Crew

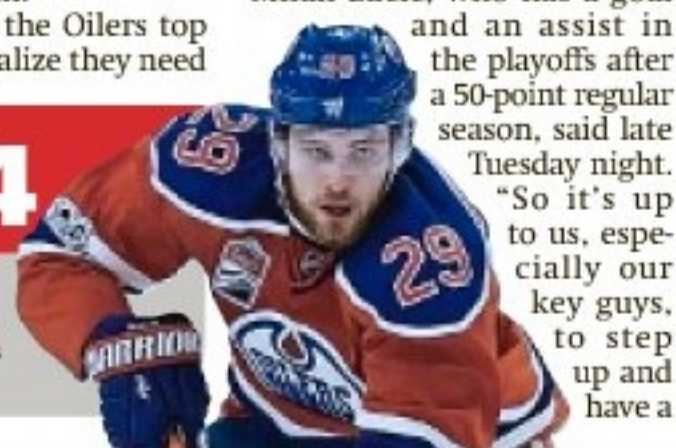
Addison Russell hit a three-run walkoff homer off Neftali Feliz that capped a four-run ninth inning and lifted the Chicago Cubs over the Milwaukee Brewers 7-4 Wednesday.

Chicago trailed 4-1 in the sixth inning and 4-3 after Russell's run-scoring single in the eighth. Wade Davis worked around a walk in the ninth to win in relief of Kyle Hendricks, who tied his career-high with four walks in five innings.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

\$2,569.44

The NHL announced on Wednesday that **Leon Draisaitl** avoided suspension and will be fined \$2,569.44 US for spearing Sharks forward Chris Tierney in the groin in Game 4.



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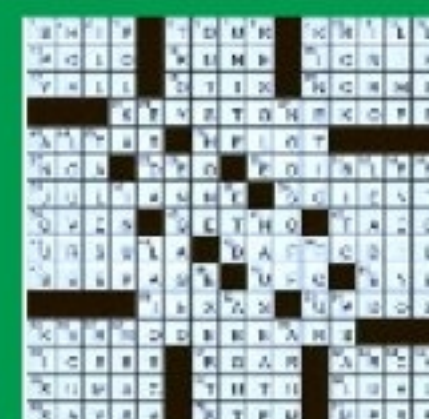
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6	8	4	5	1	9	3	2	7
7	9	5	2	3	6	1	8	4
5	7	6	3	4	1	8	9	2
9	3	2	6	7	8	4	1	5
8	4	1	9	2	5	7	3	6
4	2	8	7	9	3	5	6	1
3	6	7	1	5	2	9	4	8
1	5	9	8	6	4	2	7	3

Officials say ex-Patriot hanged himself



Aaron Hernandez was 27 when he allegedly killed himself. GETTY IMAGES

NFL

Death of Aaron Hernandez on same day Pats visit president

Hours before his former New England Patriots teammates were due to visit the White House to celebrate their Super Bowl victory, prison officials say, Aaron Hernandez tied one end of his bedsheet to a window and the other around his neck and hanged himself.

In a maximum-security prison outside Boston, about an hour from the stadium where he played alongside stars like Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski, Hernandez

jammed the door to his one-man cell lest guards try to stop him, and put an early end to the life-without-parole sentence he received for a 2013 murder. He was 27.

It was the last act in the downfall of an athlete who once seemed to have everything — including a five-year \$40 million contract extension — and threw it all away.

The former NFL star's death left friends, family and his legal team shocked and in disbelief, searching for an explanation. Just last Friday, Hernandez was acquitted in a separate murder case.

"There were no conversations or correspondence from Aaron to his family or legal team that would have indicated anything like this was possible," said his

attorney, Jose Baez.

"Aaron was looking forward to an opportunity for a second chance to prove his innocence. Those who love and care about him are heartbroken and determined to find the truth surrounding his untimely death."

Guards found Hernandez shortly after 3 a.m. Wednesday at the state prison in Shirley, Correction Department spokesman Christopher Fallon said. The former tight end was taken to a hospital and pronounced dead about an hour later.

Fallon said he was not aware of any suicide note and officials had no reason to believe Hernandez was suicidal.

Otherwise, he would have been transferred to a mental health unit, Fallon said. The

Worcester County district attorney's office and the Correction Department are investigating.

The Patriots had no immediate comment. At the White House event in the afternoon, President Donald Trump congratulated the Super Bowl champions but made no mention of Hernandez.

He was a productive tight end for the Patriots for three seasons. After catching 79 passes for 910 yards and seven touchdowns in his second year to help the team reach the Super Bowl.

But the Patriots released him in 2013, shortly after he was arrested in the killing of semi-pro football player Odin Lloyd, who was dating the sister of Hernandez's fiancée. Hernandez was convicted and sentenced to life in prison. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Bill Belichick, front, and the Pats visited president Trump at the White House on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

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PHOTO: MAYA VIVIERE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



Avocado adds a satisfying creaminess to this diner classic. Sorry bacon, no hard feelings, okay?

Ready in 5 minutes

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Serves 2

Ingredients

- 4 basil leaves, torn
- 1/2 avocado, pitted and mashed
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1 tomato
- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1/2 a head of Boston bibb lettuce
- 4 pieces of multigrain bread, toasted
- sea salt

Directions

1. Cut tomato and lay out on a plate. Coat with olive oil and sprinkle with sea salt.
2. Meanwhile, mash avocado in a medium bowl and then add lemon juice and torn basil. Mix until smooth.
3. Toast bread and then smear about a tablespoon and a half of the avocado spread onto the bread. Finish by adding tomato slices and a few pieces of lettuce.
4. Cut in half or in quarters and serve with some cucumber slices.

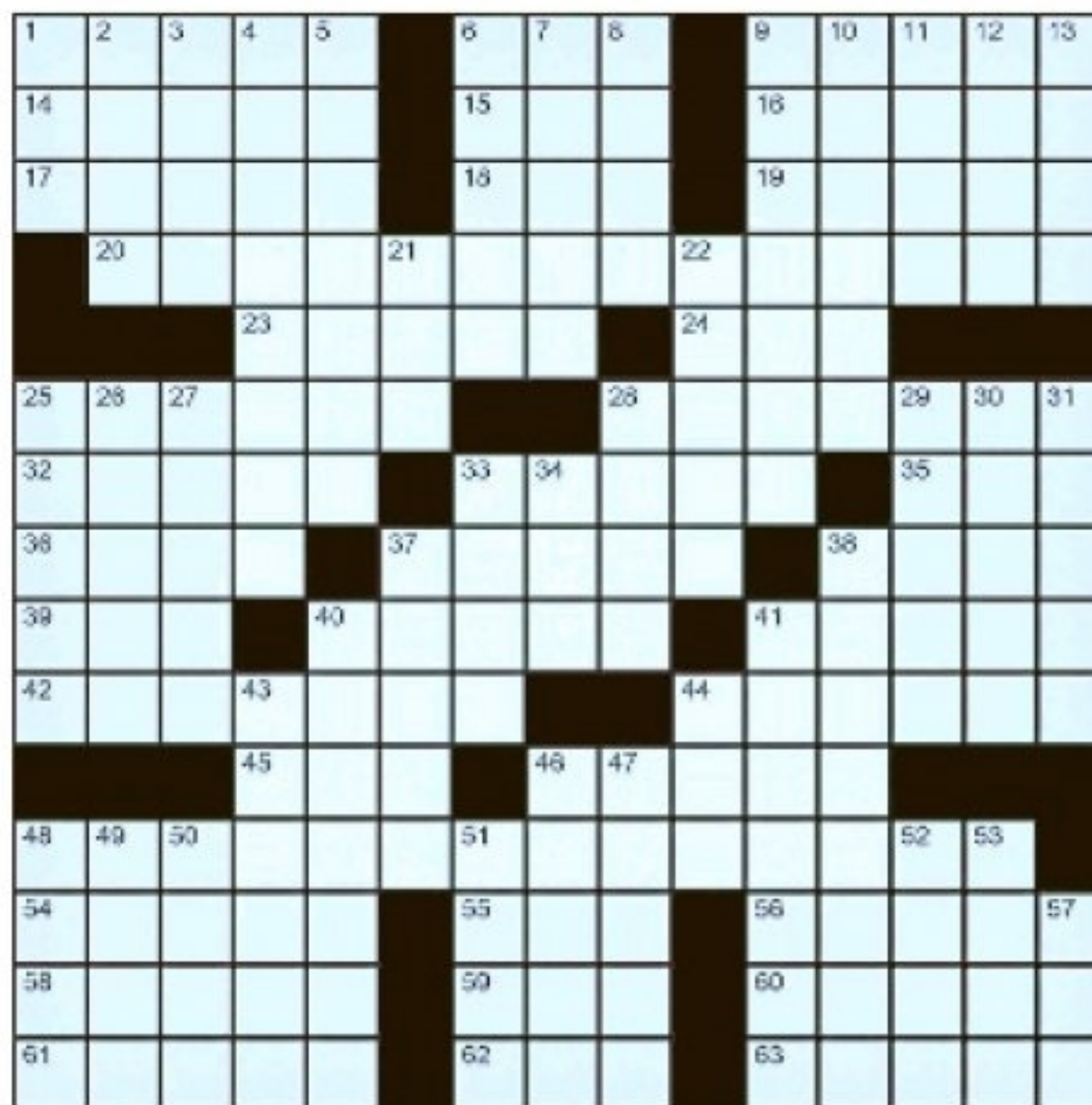
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ACROSS

1. Mell Lazarus comic strip
6. Noted botanist Mr. Gray
9. Sean of "Will & Grace"
14. _ closet
15. Mr. Aykroyd
16. Cherish
17. "Fortune is painted blind, with a muffler _ her eyes..." - Shakespeare
18. Backyard bug
19. Bona fide
20. Honoured Member of the Hockey Hall of Fame nicknamed "The Big M": 2 wds.
23. Broadway star Ms. Menzel
24. Sundial number
25. Airport arrivals
28. Classic TV show for The Cartwright Family
32. Moray catcher, maybe
33. Piece of parsley
35. "That hurts!"
36. Candid pic-takers for tabloids
37. Really request
38. Ms. Turner of "The Sea Chase" (1955)
39. Informally seat, as in a theatre
40. Television pioneer, John Logie _ (b.1888 - d.1946)
41. _ eclipse
42. Artsy style of blouse or skirt
44. Mr. Sutherland
45. Submachine gun variety
46. Poseur
48. The Tragically Hip's



current Juno-winning album: 3 wds.
54. Feminine inner self, in Jungian psychology
55. Nero's 1101
56. Machu Picchu inhabitant
58. _ circle (Those in the know)

59. Ottawa, e.g.
60. 1960s rocker's jacket style
61. Heaps
62. Compass pt.
63. Small caves

DOWN

1. Commerce degree, shortly

2. Carl who composed the cantata "Carmina Burana"
3. Berth
4. Glacier's deposits
5. Revising person
6. "Frankly, my dear, I don't give _" - Rhett Butler
7. Yemen's cap-

ital city
8. Literary collection, briefly
9. Dividing
10. Fitting-here flower
11. Cartoon television Bear
12. Country singer Mr. Church

13. Mr. Rogen of movies
21. ' _ _ for Kingston
22. Egg-shaped
25. Get vitalized: 2 wds.
26. Charter
27. 1st Greek letter
28. Mr. Garrett of "Everybody Loves Raymond"
29. Spiral-horned antelope
30. Districts-related
31. Grant
33. Incision
34. _ capita
37. " _ Room" (2002) starring Jodie Foster
38. Denizen of Ontario's "Forest City"
40. Marketplaces like Istanbul's famous one
41. Dining on Cream of Mushroom or Vegetable Noodle or Lentil
43. Added up the numbers
44. Before-E's spelled out letter
46. Type sizes
47. Straight-billed marsh bird
48. Put a stamp on, then send the letter
49. AD part
50. One of Christopher Columbus' ships of 1492
51. RCN ship designation
52. Parrot
53. Store
57. Greek alphabet letters

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a wonderful day for enjoying the company of friends, as well as the company of groups to which you belong. People are in a happy mood, and they are glad to see you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You will be briefly high-viz today, but this attention will be favourable — so no worries. Enjoy your good press, because bosses, parents and VIPs will support you today.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You're excited about big travel plans. Similarly, some of you are just as excited about big plans for further training or education. Yes, you are going to expand your world!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is an excellent day to discuss shared property, taxes, debt and inheritances, because all parties will be fair and generous to each other. (And you likely will come out smelling like a rose.)

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
This is an excellent day to deal with partners and close friends. It's also a good day for business and working with members of the general public.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Work-related travel is likely today. Co-workers are supportive; plus, meetings, classes and groups will be positive experiences for you.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a lovely day to enjoy the company of others — especially children — because you are in a warm, loving and playful mood. Expect to meet someone from another culture.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Matters related to home and family will be positive today. This also is a good day for a family business. A gathering at your home will be a success.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It's easy for you to be upbeat and positive today, because you believe in yourself! This is important because for Sagittarians, optimism is a survival issue.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Business and commerce are favored today. Any financial arrangements you initiate will lead to future profits.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Today the Moon is in your sign, dancing with Jupiter, which is why you feel joyful and content. People will be happy to meet you and listen to your positive views.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You are content today. You realize that appreciating what you have is the key to happiness. (Negativity is wanting things to be different from the way they are.)

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

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More and more, connectivity is playing a role in advanced driver assistance systems. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CARS OF THE FUTURE

As a society, we've come to expect being connected 24/7—even in our cars. But connectivity in cars can mean different things in different contexts.

assist or automatic self-parking systems as well as obstacle-avoidance steering assistance systems, just now coming to market. These ADAS features can identify a broad range of vehicles, people and other objects around them but it's a one-way connection; they don't really communicate back and forth with them. That's the next step.

A couple years ago, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced plans to make vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communication technologies mandatory equipment.

Now it has followed

XOL

through on that plan. In December 2016, the agency issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that would implement rules requiring mandatory adoption of V2V technology on all cars, SUVs and light trucks within five years.

The case for proceeding with the proposal is strong. By "talking" to each other and sharing data such as speed and position at rates of up to 10 times per second, vehicles will be able to go well beyond what today's self-contained systems can accomplish in terms of determining and helping avoid potentially dangerous situations. "Once deployed, V2V will provide 360-degree situational

Secretary Anthony Foxx. "We are carrying the ball as far as we can to realize the potential of transportation technology to save lives. This long-promised V2V rule is the next step in that progression."

What that "360-degree situational awareness" means is that cars will be able to electronically "see" each other around corners, for example. As proposed, V2V connectivity is different and separate from ADAS and autonomous driving technologies in that it only provides information. It does not in any way exercise any control over the vehicle. It's not a stretch to see how such systems could be used by take whatever action is necessary to prevent a collision.

ALERT!

formation will in some way be communicated to the drivers involved so they can take corrective action to avoid a collision. But that's as far as it goes.

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counterintuitive. It's one of those skills that improves with practice, but Ford's Pro Trailer Backup Assist system takes most of the hassle out of the process, even for novices.

Gerry Malloy

While electric cars and autonomous driving features seem to get all the publicity these days, there's a lot more going on in automakers' engineering labs to make cars better and safer. Here are

Moose avoidance and run-off road mitigation

minutes, during the first milliseconds of steering input, thus shifting more weight onto the front tires.

Large animal detection senses the density of larger animals within about a 200-metre range.

keeps the vehicle on the road by applying braking and steering forces if an impending road departure is sensed," says Kerr. "Large animal detection senses the density of larger animals within about a 200-metre range, to determine if they pose a danger, and warns the driver and automatically brakes the vehicle to mitigate a collision if the driver takes no action."

counterintuitive. It's one of those skills that improves with practice, but Ford's Pro Trailer Backup Assist system takes most of the hassle out of the process, even for novices.



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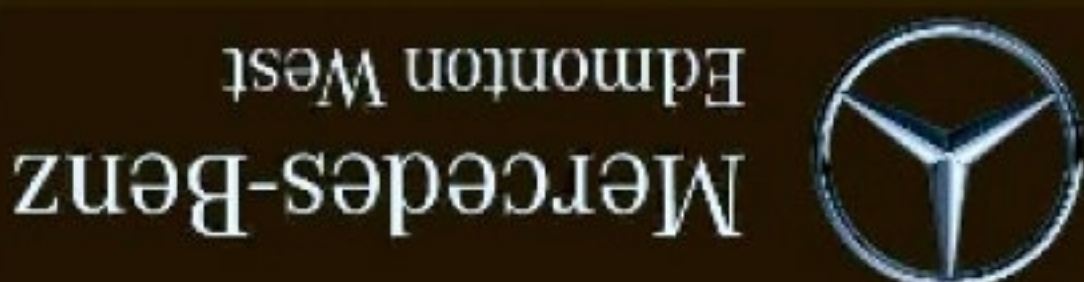
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Auto Show Lineup Ends April 30th

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Trek the auto show with ease

EXHIBIT

Expo Centre laid out so visitors don't miss a thing

Lucy Haines

How do you see all there is to see at the Edmonton Motor Show? Getting around can take some planning, whether it's a visit of a few hours or a whole day.

Every hall and exhibit space at the Edmonton Expo Centre, plus another section of outdoor space, is utilized by the show — more than a mile's walk end to end — according to show executive director Eleasha Naso. But there are ways to see it all so you don't miss anything.

"We group things together: Luxury Lane (BMW's, Mercedes, etc.), the Classic Car Auction, the auto emporium after-market vendors and Auto Exotica (in the ballroom area of Expo Centre) where you'll find unusual vehicles not normally seen on Alberta roads. In this display, you can get up-close and personal with vehicles from manufacturers like Aston Martin, Bentley, Ferrari and Rolls Royce," says Naso.

Here you'll find the Aston Martin V12 Vantage S (only 24 exist in Canada) or the Ferrari F12tdf (only 799 will be built) with a 731 horsepower that will

“There's no right or wrong way to take in the motor show.”

Eleasha Naso

A ton of pick-up trucks will be on display at this year's Edmonton Motor Show, including the family-friendly Honda Odyssey and the Chevy Equinox. CONTRIBUTED



The Edmonton Motor Show is set out like Ikea so you can fit all. CONTRIBUTED

take it from zero to 200 km/h in less than eight seconds. Naso compares the show's set-up to Ikea, with only two entrances. Visitors basically wind their way through, starting at one end and working toward the other. In the biggest exhibit hall, manufacturers will showcase their upcoming models

— Jeep, Ram, Toyota, Dodge, Honda, Hyundai, Chevrolet, Ford, Mazda, Nissan, GMC. Sub-areas include a no-pressure environment to shopping for their next vehicle. Everyone can get in and out of vehicles to their heart's content, have a food or snack break at

the indoor concessions or out- in and out of various halls. show will further steer visitors

Feel like fresh air? Head out- doors to the bleachers and the Nissan Drift Demonstration, but plenty of ways for visitors to enjoy special events and breaks whenever they like. Ours is the largest show of its kind out west — definitely a great day out, and the kids will be asleep before you know it on

through the weekend," says "Our staff will walk about 27 kilometres getting around

The vehicle has to work for the whole family.

Eleasha Naso

behind on that. We still love our trucks here." Though still a niche per- former across North Amer- ica and something of a curi- osity in the local market, electric vehicles have come a long way. The Nissan Leaf, Chevrolet Volt and Toyota Prius (fully electric or hybrid)

sources, but Alberta is a ways behind on that. We still love our trucks here." Though still a niche per- former across North Amer- ica and something of a curi- osity in the local market, electric vehicles have come a long way. The Nissan Leaf, Chevrolet Volt and Toyota Prius (fully electric or hybrid)

Naso says the changing economy has impacted how people buy, not so much based on impulse or con-venience but as a practical choice — a plan to buy and keep a vehicle for more than just a few years. "But they still want to own that car,"

And when it's a one-vehicle be as important as a house. to many, the purchase can time in our vehicles and, Naso. "We spend so much executive director Eleasha truck or SUV ahead of using cabs or public transit. And globally, we're definitely see-

Pick-up trucks are a given at this spring's event — from the family-friendly Honda Odyssey to the Chevy Equinox and Subaru Impreza. "There's different inven-

have sold some, but concerns over access to more plentiful charging stations remains an issue, as is the upfront higher cost for such vehicles. Elsewhere in the world, electric vehicles have a much stronger presence, up to 25 per cent of the vehicle mar-

and numbering some two million vehicles on the road worldwide. Still, it's a market poised to expand in future and Ford, for one, is investing \$4.5 billion in plug-in elec-

LUCY HAINES



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Get your motor running

Edmonton's biggest show drives into the Expo Centre

Lucy Haines

It's time for Western Canada's largest automotive showcase — the Edmonton Motor Show, April 20-23 at the Edmonton Expo Centre. Yes, the four-filled days are a mecca for car enthusiasts who will find never-before-seen vehicles from all major car manufacturers and new car dealers in the city. It's also an interactive experience — a chance to climb inside and steer the wheel and touch the buttons in a no-pressure environment. Maybe you want to snag a rare deal at the classic car auction, get some gear for your tricked-out ride, or cheer on the professional drivers at the Nissan Drift racetrack outside the Expo Centre. With a half-million square feet of indoor display space (the entire Expo Centre) and, this year, the addition of outdoor exhibits, bleachers and racing space, there's room for it all and something for every member of the family. "The motor show is one of the best-attended car shows in the country," says Eleasha Naso, Edmonton Motor Show executive director. "The automobile is so important in Alberta because we're so spread out, but that makes it hard to get to everything. This is a chance to see it all under one roof, from concept cars like the Ford GT and (others you'll never see in a showroom), to passion projects — dream vehicles created by other Albertans — in the inaugural Unrivalled Rides exhibit."

In an economy that has taken some hits in the last couple of years, Naso says the auto sector has felt it, too. The result at the motor show is a renewed mix of exhibitors (but with plenty of trucks — we're still truck country in Alberta, after all), a luxury car marketplace (Jaguar, Land Rover, Porsche, Mercedes, Audi, etc.) and more room to involve regular Albertans and their love affair with the automobile. In past years, a lot of

We aim to give people value for the \$15 ticket (a family pass is \$36, seniors/students are \$13, free for children 6 and under)

the show may have involved simply "looking", but the classic car auction and the new projects will be showcased, with show attendees able to

vote for a favourite and cash prizes for the winner. You may have seen it in flicks like *The Fast and the Furious*, or on the *Castrol Raceway*, but drifting — a judged motor sport races at the motor show, fans can get up close to the cars and drivers for an interactive and fun event. Spend even more time outdoors with the food trucks, hit and other displays, or after-market emporium in Canada — tires, paint, wrap, truck

close to the wall as possible. The front wheels keep trailing from vendors who can lift — even insurance and de-

"We aim to give people value for the \$15 ticket (a family pass is \$36, seniors/students are \$13, free for children 6 and under)," says Naso. "This 41st Edmonton Motor Show is a great way to wear comfortable shoes." For tickets and more show information visit edmontonmotorshow.com.



The four days at the Edmonton Motor Show are a mecca for car enthusiasts, who will find never-before-seen vehicles from all major car manufacturers and new car dealers in the city. CONTRIBUTED



Classic car auction creates sparks

The Electric Garage Collector Car Auction has been bringing buyers and sellers together at the Edmonton Motor Show for several years. This year, more than 200 consigned cars are expected to go on the block — everything from a 30s-era truck or 60s-era Mustang to restored, modified and even current models — making it the largest auction of its kind in Alberta. Vehicles from across and even outside Alberta (plus auto memorabilia) will be featured each day at the motor show, with a chance to view the goods before each auction. "We have a high sell rate of about 90 per cent, which creates even more interest among collectors. Very rare cars have gone for six figures, but you can also get a smoking deal in the low thousands," says Edmonton Motor Show executive director Eleasha Naso.

"Collectors search the internet for these vehicles, but it's great to come to the auction to see the car in-person. It's a way to sit, learn and watch as people bid, or it's just as much fun to outbid someone else. The atmosphere can get highly charged and very entertaining." The 7th annual Collector Car Auction runs April 21 at 6 p.m., April 22 at 11 a.m. and April 23 at noon.

LUCY HAINES



Sixties-era Mustangs are among over 200 consigned cars at the auction. ISTOCK

A red Ram truck is shown driving through a river, with its front end partially submerged. The truck is angled towards the right. In the foreground, the word 'm' is written in a large, green, stylized font, and a green globe icon is positioned to its left. The background shows a rocky riverbank and some trees. The overall scene is dynamic and adventurous.

Edmonton

m

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